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AGAWAM Advertiser News

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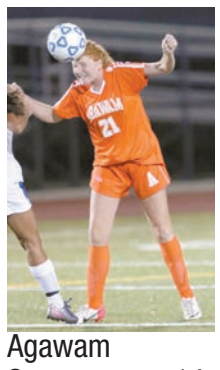

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Relaxing the standards for business zoning

Walnut Street Ext. properties targeted

By Jennifer Wroblewski
Staff Writer

AGAWAM — Planning officials are moving forward with plans for the Walnut Street Extension shopping area – including the former Games and Lanes building – thanks to a Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) Local Technical Assistance Grant.

The plans for the area – which include 21 properties – is the second step in the town's attempt to revitalize and develop the area, said Deborah Dachos, director of Planning and Community Development.

In March 2010, the department put together an Economic Devlopment Plan with a $69,000 grant to prepare a plan under Chapter 43D.

"The plan's primary goal was to identify priority development sites for future economic growth in the community," said Dachos. "The number one site was the Walnut Street Ext. area. The second was Tennis Road."

According to Dachos, last year the PVPC announced the availability of a district local technical assistance grant. While the grant had no monetary transfer, it allowed "so many man hours" to be dedicated toward helping town officials prepare new zoning for that area.

Current zoning for Walnut Street Extension, Business A, has "significant setback requirements" that would allow "very little developable area" once all the restrictions are incorporated, she said. The goal of the mixed use zoning, therefore, is to relax the zoning developmental requirements to allow for both commercial/residential developments with commercial on the first floor and residential on the second floor.

Planning officials are hoping the zoning would try "to bring more people into that area around the clock; not just during the day, but at night," said Dachos. The area

Please see ZONING, page 6

Academic achievement

Turley Publications photo by Mike Lydick

Agawam High School seniors Molly Mittler and Nolan Sheridan are the most recent recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) Certificate of Academic Award.

AHS seniors honored for impressive successes

By Mike Lydick
Turley Publications Correspondent

AGAWAM — Molly Mittler and Nolan Sheridan have known each other since they were in elementary school. The two friends, now Agawam High School seniors, share many interests, from a love of music to an interest in the medical profession to volleyball.

Both rank among the top five students in their class – Nolan ranks third with a 4.38 grade point average (GPA) while Molly ranks fourth with a 4.19 GPA. Each has taken eight Advanced Placement (AP) courses and they're closely matched in the number of honors courses – 13 for Molly and 12 for Nolan.

One more important academic achievement links Molly and Nolan: both are recipients of a 2013 Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) Certificate of Academic Award. Local school superintendents present the award to recognize seniors who have achieved academic success.

Criteria for the award – presented by Superintendent William Sapelli at the Nov. 12 school committee meeting – include the student's three-year cumulative average of class ranking and overall school citizenship. The award is presented annually to seniors who have distinguished themselves "in pursuit of academic excellence" during high school.

Students are selected at the beginning of their senior year so they can include this unique citation in their credential packages and counselor recommendations for college applications. Sapelli called it "an honor and a privilege" to present the award each year.

A 'pleasant surprise'

The award follows another recognition that Molly, 17, received earlier in her senior year. She was the first AHS student selected for an all-national honor band. In late October, she played with the top performing high school musicians in the country in Nashville, Tenn.

The MASS award is much dif-

Please see AHS, page 6

Student tour delivers 'clear understanding' of recycling

By Mike Lydick
Turley Publications Correspondent

Amazing. Awesome. Cool. That's how some Agawam students described their recent visit to the facility where recyclable material collected by the town is processed.

Fourth grade classes from Benjamin Phelps, James Clark, Clifford Granger, and Robinson Park elementary schools got an up close look at the recycling process when they visited the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (MRF). On three separate days in mid-November. A total of 264 students from 12 classes took a one-hour tour conducted by staff from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), which runs the Birnie Avenue facility.

Tracy DeMaio, solid waste and storm water coordinator for Agawam Department of Public Works, said the goal of taking students to the MRF is to give them "a clear understanding of why they recycle, what happens to the materials once the truck picks it up at their schools or their homes, and the process the material goes through to be made into something new."

Although no recycled materials are remanufactured at the facility, DEP staff did show one example of what happens when the materials leave the MRF. Arlene Miller,

Please see RECYCLE, page 5

RECEIVING RECOGNITION

Turley Publications photo by Mike Lydick

Agawam Rotary Club President George Bitzas presents *Agawam Advertiser News* Editor Jennifer Wroblewski with a recognition award for Advertiser staff – including Wroblewski, Office Manager Teri Machia, and Correspondent Mike Lydick (not pictured) – for "outstanding support of the Rotary Club of Agawam and their positive contributions to our community" during a Rotary Club meeting held Nov. 21.

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Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing $50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Community tree-lighting, sing-a-long at Veterans Green

The public is invited to an old-fashioned Community Lighting of the Christmas Tree and Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long, hosted by the Agawam Clergy Association, Sunday, Dec. 15 at 5 p.m. at the Agawam Veterans Green. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held at St. John the Evangelist Church Parish Hall, 833 Main St., Agawam.

Following the sing-a-long, Fr. Tomasz Parzynski, of St. John's Church, has invited the public to a Carol Sing and Christmas Social at the Parish Hall from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Food and beverage donations for the social are welcome and may be dropped off at St. John's Parish Hall at 4 p.m.

The public is welcome to celebrate the Christmas season with friends and family and enjoy refreshments and holiday music.

'Yuletide at Storrowton' spreads holiday cheer

WEST SPRINGFIELD Eastern States Exposition's Storrowton Village Museum will present Yuletide at Storrowton, Saturday, Dec. 7 and Sunday, Dec. 8 from 11a.m. to 4 p.m. in West Springfield. This free winter festival brings the community together to celebrate the holidays with traditional Yuletide activities, entertainment and shopping in the historic Village.

Decorated through the generosity of area garden clubs, florists and designers, the Village buildings will be full of innovative and original ideas to turn your house into a holiday wonderland. Walk through the buildings to find beautiful wreaths, swags, garlands, fresh evergreens and all natural materials around every corner.

The Master Gardeners of Storrowton will oversee the festive decorating project and Yuletide coordinator Thelma Greene, of Chicopee, will manage all event decorating. The event will spread holiday cheer with musical performances in the Meetinghouse, animals, ice sculpting and Early American craft demonstrations.

Participating clubs and florists include the Agawam, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham, Springfield and West Springfield garden clubs; the Garden Club of the Westfield Women's Club; Floral Concepts by Tom of Agawam; Merry Mite Gardens of Suffield, Conn.; The Bloomin' Bunch, located in Springfield; designer Alma Silverman of Springfield; Anthony Gladu of West Springfield's Rose Petal and Thorn; Eastern States Exposition Landscape department; and area decorator Pat Byrne of South Hadley. Storrowton Village volunteers will be costumed guides for the event.

WHERE IS IT?

Each week *Agawam Advertiser News* will feature a photo of a local building, item, sign, place or landmark and ask readers to pick their brains to figure out where it is or even what it is. Check here each week to test your knowledge of the area where we live and work. The photo will be from either Agawam or Feeding Hills, but we'll always give you a hint or two.

The answer to this week's "Where is it?" will run in next week's edition along with the name of the first person to submit a correct answer and a new trivia photo for you to consider.

E-mail answers or future Where Is It? suggestions to editor Jennifer Wroblewski at jwroblewski@turley.com.

Turley Publications staff photo by Jennifer Wroblewski

We'll give you a hint as to what this is: a gazebo found somewhere in town. Can you tell us where it is?

Last week's photo: Correctly guessing Agawam High School Harmon A. Smith Field, was Jacqueline Prendergast.

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New senator takes a Beacon Hill view

By Christopher Faille
Turley Publications Correspondent

BOSTON — Donald Humason, the new state Senator in a district that includes Agawam, spoke recently about two issues in which a recent change in state law has raised questions and posed challenges at the local level: medical marijuana on the one hand and the policy on casinos on the other.

In both contexts, where some see a human vice and a source of great social costs, others see business opportunities. The medical marijuana initiative passed in 2012 and is now the law in Massachusetts that the state will license dispensaries for the medicinal use of this substance, up to five in each county.

But it is still unclear what that actually means for municipalities. Humason said that the success of the initiative "caught many people by surprise." He attributed that success at least in part to clever wording of the question by the advocates.

"You would have to have had a heart of stone" not to have been moved by the stories of the alleviation of suffering, he said.

He cautions that the federal government still prohibits marijuana, and there is nothing Massachusetts can do unilaterally about that. The Obama administration has indicated that it is "not going to go out and jam up the states" that have created such systems, or their participants, Humason said. But "all it would take is a change in administration," or perhaps in the political winds, to change the situation drastically.

Municipal concerns

In the meantime, he said, municipalities have real concerns and "they're not entirely powerless to act in the face of the question" of pot use/abuse and its potential consequences. "We're in uncharted territory," he said, and officials in towns such as Holyoke or Agawam are naturally cautious.

He also spoke about a potential casino in Springfield. It "certainly looks like there will be" such a casino, in the face of recent votes in West Springfield and Palmer that have taken both of those towns out of the running (at least pending a scheduled recount – slated for Tuesday, Nov. 26 – in Palmer).

"MGM is optimistic, but they won't get their casino by default, they need the approval of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission, which will do a thorough review of their plan," he said.

The commission's review, mandated under the statute, is "not meant to be interminable," though, and the most likely near future is one in which MGM gets the go ahead for its Springfield plan early in 2014.

Humason is sympathetic, on this issue too, with the towns that are concerned about the social effects in their backyards of a newly implemented state policy. But he says that host and adjoining communities are given significant protections by this legislation, a "stronger position than is the case in other states that have casinos."

He doesn't anticipate that the legislators on Beacon Hill will revisit the law until the situation plays itself out further, and "until we're in a position to see how the system works or doesn't work." As a state senator, he says, he will be "in touch with affected towns and communities" assessing the costs – traffic, congestion, addiction, vis-a-vis the expected developmental benefits.

Economic circumstances

Our talk turned to the broader issue of the economic circumstances of his district at present. He said that in the Pioneer Valley he sees "pockets of success," that indicate some degree of recovery from the recession of recent years. But the western part of the state is lagging behind the eastern, with areas in his district experiencing "a much higher unemployment rate than is the state average."

What can be done? The state government should first do no harm: ensure that it is doing nothing to scare off investment or entrepreneurship. Beyond that, Humason thinks the state should "focus on the issues in education and job training and getting people to work."

Humason this fall defeated David Bartley, D-Holyoke in a special election Nov. 5. Thus, he now holds the Senate seat formerly held by Mike Knapik, R-Westfield, who resigned in August to take a position at Westfield state University.

Humason's new district, the Second Hamden and Hampshire, includes Agawam, along with Holyoke, Westfield, Blandford, Chester, Granville, Montgomery, Russell, Southwick, Tolland, Easthampton, Southampton, and parts of Chicopee.

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Opinion

Support small businesses this Saturday

If you're looking to avoid the "Black Friday" crowds and get a jump on your holiday shopping prior to "Cyber Monday," "Small Business Saturday," set for this Saturday, Nov. 30, is the answer.

The cornerstone of our community, indeed, communities all across the United States, are small local, "mom and pop" businesses independently owned by our friends and neighbors. Small businesses not only provide great, personalized service to consumers, they spur the local economy by pumping much needed funds into our small towns, and provide employment opportunities as well. Without our local businesses advertising on these pages, your local, community newspaper, would not be possible!

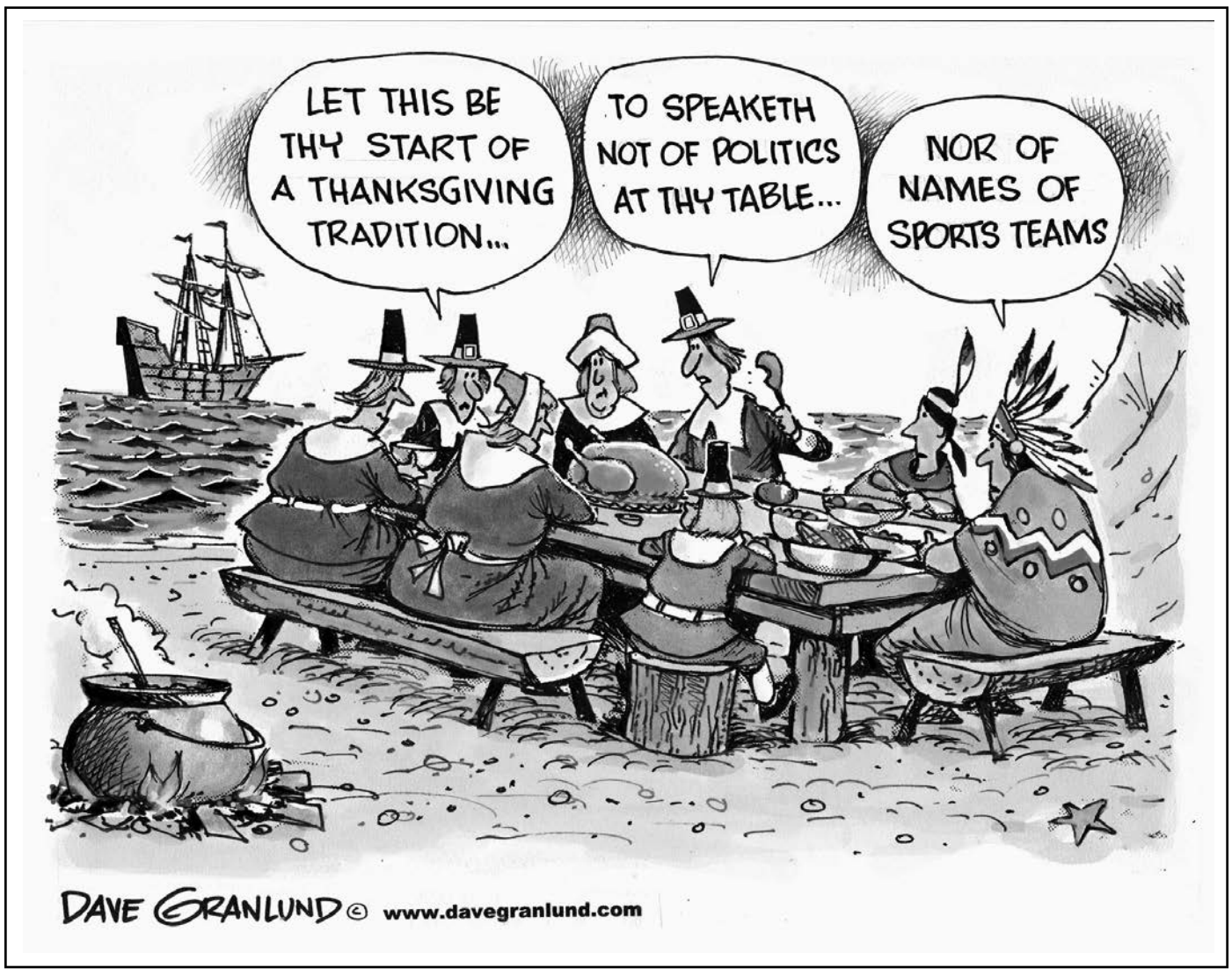
Small businesses also provide a variety of unique local goods, and they are sure to be a hit for anyone on your holiday shopping list this year.

Consumers are heeding the message of "Small Business Saturday" – according to American Express OPEN, which launched the consumer awareness campaign in 2010, small, independently-owned retailers reaped an estimated $5.5 billion during last year's "Small Business Saturday."

Let's make "Small Business Saturday" even bigger this year! Support small local businesses, and encourage your family members, friends and neighbors to do the same. Setting aside this Saturday to shop locally will show you all the benefits that come with supporting local merchants and may "Small Business Saturday" a year-round shopping experience.

For additional information on "Small Business Saturday," visit www.smallbusinesssaturday.com.

From of all of us at Agawam Advertiser News, we wish you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving!



Letter to the Editor

Thanks for the support

To the editor:

The trustees of the Captain Charles Leonard House would like to thank all those who attended our recent benefit Craft Beer and Wine Tasting, and helped make the event the success it was. It was exciting to welcome so many new guests to the House for the first time. We would especially like to express our appreciation to the following local businesses and their owners whose generous donations made the event such an enjoyable evening for all:

Agawam Flower Shop; Allied Flooring & Paint; Bath & Kitchen Gallery; Big Y Supermarkets; Block Jewelers; BruBurger Restaurant; Cooper's; CRW Landscaping; Curves; EB's Restaurant; Floral Concepts by Tom; Giovanni's Italian Pastry; Ice Cream Shoppe; Kaptain Jimmy's; Karoun Yoga; Kayce Cupcakes; Longhi's Golf; M&S Painting; Main Street Deli; McCarthy Liquors; On-The-Hill Restaurant; Parthenon; Rocky's Hardware; Sarat Ford; Shear Technique; Sherwin-Williams Co.; Squire's Bistro; Tatyana Salon & Spa; The Cutting Edge; and The Massage Haven.

Thanks again for your support.

The Trustees of the Captain Charles Leonard House

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Thanksgiving is a Lifestyle

FAITH MATTERS

TIM REED,
EXECUTIVE PASTOR
BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Colossians 3:15-17 state the following truth about a lifestyle of thanksgiving: "15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

A lifestyle of thanksgiving is characterized by three things: being thankful, having gratitude, and giving thanks. "And be thankful" is a descriptive phrase using an adjective to articulate how the thankful person is viewed by others. You can visibly see in the eyes and actions, the person whose heart is genuinely thankful. Truly thankful people seem to be a rare breed these days, where the goal is to ensure self is satisfied above all else. When people describe your character, does the word "thankful" make the short list?

Gratitude is a noun and is a tangible element located within the soul of a person. When good things happen one needs to be grateful. When bad things happen one needs to be grateful as well. When life is easy it is easy to have gratitude. When life is difficult it is imperative to have gratitude. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was martyred days before the end of World War II in a German POW camp. He was a pastor and theologian who opposed Hitler and was arrested and imprisoned for his stance. Bonhoeffer wrote, "In ordinary life we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich. It is very easy to overestimate the importance of our own achievements in comparison with what we owe others." Find the precious jewel of gratitude and hold it in the depths of your soul to carry you through whatever life brings your way.

Finally, we must always give thanks in all circumstances. This is a verb calling everyone to an active lifestyle of thanks. There will be days of sunshine and roses. Give thanks! There will be days of rain and sorrow. Give thanks! The bible makes it abundantly clear that life is a delicate balance of extremes: good and evil, love and hate, health and sickness, joy and sadness, peace and fear, etc. We never know what the next moment will bring in this life, so the best posture to assume is one of active thankfulness. We do not thank God for the evil or bad things that happen, but somewhere in the darkness we must find the ray of hope and cling to it. There is always something to give thanks for everyday!

Be thankful (adjective). With gratitude (noun). Give thanks (verb). This holiday season live a lifestyle of thanksgiving!

Letters to the Editor must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail aan@turley.com.

Student tour delivers 'clear understanding' of recycling

RECYCLE, from page 1

regional recycling coordinator for MassDEP, held up a hardcover copy of the final book in the Harry Potter series, explaining that pages inside were made from recycled paper delivered to the Springfield MRF.

Miller also cautioned students not to put plastic shopping bags in with the recyclable material. "Plastic bags are not recyclable at this facility," she said. "They're made using oil – so don't use plastic bags for bottles or paper that is being recycled." She added that most large retail stores have special bins to collect plastic bags.

Tour complements curriculum

During the tour students watched an educational video about recycling, waste reduction, and how recyclables move through the MRF. The second component was a walk-through at the facility. Students watched the process used to sort plastic, glass, and metal – which is crushed and compacted into bales. The final stop on the tour was the scale used to weigh the trucks that deliver material to the facility.

Jo-Ann Sullivan, a teacher at Benjamin Phelps School, said this was the first time her students had toured the facility. "We have a recycling and environmental curriculum as well as a recycling program at our school, so this tour was helpful for students. It showed them what happens to recyclables collected in Agawam."

"The tour is a good way to increase recycling in the community. The kids will help reinforce the message that recycling is good for the community and for the environment," said Jennifer Mertz, a paraprofessional in Sullivan's classroom.

Added Sullivan, "When kids see how the material is processed, it makes recycling more relevant and more real to them. Many didn't realize how close the facility is to Agawam."

A great learning experience

Several of Sullivan's students said the tour was an interesting learning experience. "It was great," said Domenic Vecchiarelli, 10. "I learned that iron comes from mountains."

Alexis Ouimette, 9, said she enjoyed watching the baling operation. "I've never seen that before – it's not something you see every day."

Peter Stassen, 9, said his favorite part of the tour was watching how material dumped on conveyors is separated for recycling. But his most important take away was the importance of recycling. "If we didn't recycle then all our trash would be spread over the planet and all the animals and plants would die."

Marissa Hermans, 9, said she now has a better understanding of what happens after the recyclables are collected and brought to the MRF. "I learned that recycling is important because it cuts down on pollution. Also, there would be a lot more waste if we didn't recycle."

Agawam is one of more than 70 Western Massachusetts municipalities with a contract to use the MRF facility for recycled paper products and containers (known as a dual or two-part recycle stream method). The Springfield MRF has been in operation since 1990.

Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

Arlene Miller, regional recycling coordinator for Mass. DEP., conducts a walk-through tour of the Springfield MRF for a group of fourth graders from Benjamin Phelps School.

DeMaio, who serves on the MRF Advisory Board, said the town delivers an average of about 1,720 tons of recycling material per year to Springfield. She added that the tonnage of recycled material has remained fairly consistent for the past five years.

According to DeMaio Agawam earns a rebate of $15.67 per ton from the recycling material collected at residential homes, public schools, and municipal buildings. Some of the rebate funds were used to pay bus transportation costs to bring students to the MRF for the free tour.

DeMaio said students who took the MRF tour are fortunate because Agawam currently doesn't sponsor the trip every year. "Fourth graders have gone in the past – many years ago," she said. "But I'd like to start the field trips back up, making it an annual event for them."

She added that fourth graders usually have participated in the field trip because of the curriculum-based lessons on the environment for their grade level. "I've had teachers inquire about recycling education, so what better place to learn about what happens to our recycling material than a field trip to the MRF."

Junior Women to host 'Breakfast with Santa'

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club will host "Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus," Sunday, Dec. 8 from 8-11:30 a.m. at the Roberta G. Doering Middle School, 68 Main St., Agawam.

Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for children under the age of 12. Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice or milk and will be served by Santa's "helpers." Also part of the event will be free books and story walk provided by the Agawam Family and Community Program.

Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for purchase for $3 and there will be a toy raffle. Children are invited to drop off letters to Santa and are asked to be sure to include a return address for reply.

Snow date is Sunday, Dec. 15.

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Relaxing the standards for business zoning

ZONING, from page 1

would be pedestrian friendly and offer small niche businesses and a blend of commercial and residential development.

"The gist, the meat of it, is it'll relax the standards," she said. "It will allow residential and commercial development to occur simultaneously."

The mixed use plan encourages harmony in terms of facade and signage and will help to blend the existing structures, Dachos said. One thing it discourages, however, is free-standing buildings.

"If you have one parcel, the buildings will be freestanding, but there will not be multiple freestanding buildings on one parcel to try to have a feel for a downtown shopping area because we really don't have a central business district," she said.

The plan will allow for buildout of 75 percent of lot coverage, "as long as you can prove there's parking somewhere. It doesn't have to be onsite; it could be offsite."

There will also be a density bonus for providing affordable units.

"The density bonus would allow 95 percent lot buildout," said Dachos.

The Agawam Planning Board held its public hearing on the zoning change last Thursday, Nov. 21, and the Agawam City Council is slated to hear from residents on the matter during a public hearing Monday, Dec. 16. The council was invited to attend a workshop held Oct. 3 to discuss the change. Councilors Robert Rossi, Donald Rheault and James Cichetti were present for that discussion.

Dachos said she hopes the council votes to move forward with the zoning change.

"What it will be doing is creating a whole new district," she said. "Currently what we have is Business A and Business B. This would be Business C, which could be utilized in other areas in town in the future, but is primarily addressing the Walnut Street Ext. area.

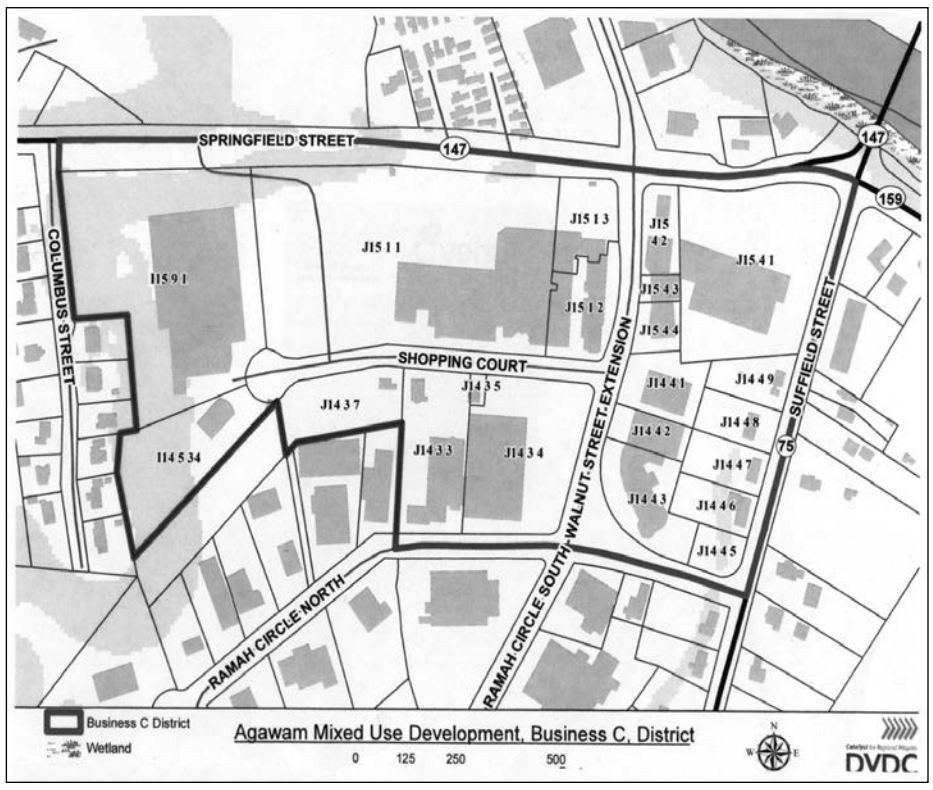
"I'm really enthusiastic about it," she went on. "I think it's a win-win because it provides a really good incentive for businesses to invest in their properties there. It doesn't place any kind of restriction on what they can do other than to blend what they do with other businesses."

As for the businesses, their biggest concern – other than the Games and Lanes building – is parking.

To address that, Mayor Richard A. Cohen recently sent a letter to PVPC for the next round of local technical assistance projects, Dachos said.

"We just sent in another request for this year's round, and what we would be doing is working with them to prepare an application to MassWorks Infrastructure Program... that would be requesting funding for public parking as well as streetscapes, and pedestrian and bicycle improvements to the area."

Those improvements would make up Phase 3 of the project, she said.



Turley Publications courtesy graphic

Roughly 21 properties are targeted for mixed use development in the Walnut Street Extension shopping area.

AHS seniors honored for impressive successes

AHS, from page 1

ferent, said Molly. "The musical ensemble was something I knowingly worked hard for and competed for, but the MASS award was a pleasant surprise since I had no idea I would be in the running for it."

Receiving two big honors in such a short time period "feels really good," added Molly. "It's nice to be recognized for achievements in two different aspects of my life in such great ways."

In addition to outstanding academic achievements, Molly – an accomplished clarinetist – is a member of the school's marching, symphonic, and concert bands. She also serves as band council secretary and is the principal clarinet player in the wind ensemble. Her other extracurricular activities include vice president of the Key Club, treasurer of the Future Medical Career Club, member of a special student leadership group, and singer in the female choir.

Molly is just as busy outside of school. She tutors younger students, volunteers for local service organization events, and holds two part-time jobs. Her career plans are still undecided, but she's considering a career in the actuarial field. "This award shows I'm a well-rounded student and that I can make a name for myself."

Recognition for hard work

Nolan, also 17, said he was surprised to receive the award since he didn't know it existed. "But I'm very excited to share this honor with one of my best friends."

He said the award recognizes his academic aptitude and hard work. "[It] will definitely give an extra push to my resume," he said. "Hopefully, it will help colleges see me as an asset in personality, not just as a student."

In his final high school year Nolan juggles many extracurricular commitments while maintaining his academic achievements. He serves as president of three groups – Future Medical Career Club, Key Club, and Peer Leadership – as well as vice president of the band council. Additionally, he participates in the drama club, the men's choir, and the peer tutoring program.

Outside of school, there are numerous activities, too. They include working two part-time jobs and performing various volunteer community services. Nolan said there's no secret to how he manages his time. "I look at every day like a step in the direction of my future: I weigh my choices, consider the pros and cons, and I put in as much effort as I want to be given back."

When it comes to his future, Nolan is considering two very different career paths. "I'm a bit torn between following my dream to pursue an acting career or to better the community by fulfilling a career as a nurse anesthetist. My dream school is Yale University."

Determination, dedication rewarded

Their parents are as elated as Molly and Nolan are about their academic achievement awards.

"I was delighted that Molly was selected for the MASS award," said Nora Ronnau, Molly's mother. "Her sister received the award four years ago and I suspected Molly's competitive nature would be ignited as a result. I had a strong feeling she hoped to be the recipient of the honor, too."

Nolan's father, Jim Sheridan, said his family is "thrilled" his son was selected for the award. "It's nice seeing all of his hard work and effort rewarded. This award is a special bonus."

Sheridan added that they are "extremely proud" of what the youngest of their four children has accomplished. "Nolan was taught by his family and others that if he works hard and stays focused, he'll be in charge of his life."

Ronnau said she's always placed high expectations on her daughters. "Mediocrity is not an option. There was never any question in regard to how high a priority it is to excel in whatever academic endeavors they embarked upon."

AHS Principal Steve Lemanski said the seniors "epitomize the intelligence and sense of purpose" of many AHS students. "Molly and Nolan are very active students. A plethora of after-school activities fill their days. Academically, they're among the brightest students in the senior class. Agawam is fortunate to have students like Nolan and Molly – high caliber academically and in character."

Gift certificate drawing to benefit K of C

The Knights of Columbus will host a fundraiser Friday, Dec. 6 through Sunday, Dec. 8 at the Ice Cream Shoppe, located at 493 Springfield St. in Feeding Hills. Customers will be given a chance to win a $25 or $10 Ice Cream Shoppe gift certificate with every purchase. Drawings will be held Sunday, Dec. 8.

The public is invited to stop in and support this cause.

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Seniors

Agawam Senior Center

Weekly calendar of events

Monday, Nov. Dec. 2: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Tobacco Valley Artist Workshop; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 4 p.m., Tap Class.

Tuesday, Dec. 3: S.H.I.N.E. (by appt.); 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Good As New Bazaar; 9 a.m., Exercise, Knitting Group Meets, Sewing Class; 10 a.m., Pace Chair Exercise; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie ("Fred Claus"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., Memory Lane Chorus Meets; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Evening Line Dance; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.

Wednesday, Dec. 4: 8 a.m., Friends Breakfast Meeting, Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Friends Meeting, S.H.I.N.E. (by appt.); 9 a.m.-1 p.m., As Good As New Bazaar; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 11:45 a.m., Music with Norma Harper (No Golden Age Meeting); 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Ballroom Lessons, Scrabble; 6 p.m. Western Mass. Genealogy Potluck.

Thursday, Dec. 5: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., As Good As New Bazaar; 9 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch, Open Art; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6:30 p.m., Pitch.

Friday, Dec. 6: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., As Good As New Bazaar; 9:15 a.m., Oil Painting; 10 a.m., Tai Chi; 11:15 a.m., Yoga; Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage; 7 p.m., Agawam Cultural Council free event ("Joy To the World").

Lunch menu

Monday, Dec. 2: American chop suey, garden salad, apples.

Tuesday, Dec. 3: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, birthday cake.

Wednesday, Dec. 4: Vegetable chili over baked potato, shredded cheese, three-bean salad, mixed fruit.

Thursday, Dec. 5: Pasta fagioli, grilled chicken cutlet on a roll, lettuce and tomato, pudding.

Friday, Dec. 6: Baked fish, rice pilaf, spinach, peaches.

Notes from the Music Room

By Darcy Davis

The chorus is going to present a little surprise song at the Agawam Senior Center Christmas Variety Show Friday, Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. As one of the numbers, we will sing a song I helped write 60 years ago. I was teaching at Tabor Academy and a high school classmate from Drury High School was teaching English at a school in New York State. He called and said he had written some poems and asked if I could possibly help in setting them to music.

I was a little leery about this, but agreed to get together in North Adams during the Christmas vacation week since we would both be going home over that period anyway. We worked on this over several years and finally put something together.

He thought he might be able to get Doris Day to sing some of them since her manager's mother lived across the street from his mother in North Adams.

Well, not so much, but we did get one printed and put out to market and in going over material for this year's show, I came across one of the copies, so we will "give it a go."

Waste haulers fined for violations

BOSTON — The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has levied penalties of $1,032 against both J. Tinnerello, LLC of Agawam and McNamara Waste Services, LLC of Hampden for violations of state Solid Waste Management regulations involving the mismanagement of recyclable materials. Both companies provide solid waste hauling services to the public.

On June 17, MassDEP staff observed J. Tinnerello deliver excessive amounts of wood and metal to the South Hadley Landfill for disposal. These materials are banned from disposal in Massachusetts landfills and incinerators given their value as a recyclable material. Previously, a warning letter had been issued to J. Tinnerello for similar observations made by MassDEP staff in February 2013. Additionally, monthly reports submitted to MassDEP by the South Hadley Landfill indicate that J. Tinnerello delivered 24 truckloads of material that contained quantities of waste ban items in excess of acceptable standards during the period from March 2013 through July 2013.

In the case of McNamara Waste Services, on July 18, MassDEP staff observed that pre-sorted residential recyclables were being placed in the waste compartment of a curbside trash collection truck at locations along Main Street and Steepleview Road in Hampden. The co-mingling of pre-sorted recyclables with solid waste for disposal is a violation of the waste ban regulation.

A warning letter citing similar violations was issued to McNamara Waste Services in March as a result of observations made in February 2013 by MassDEP staff at the South Hadley Landfill. Those violations included the disposal of materials that contained excessive amounts of recyclable paper and cardboard and a cathode ray tube (recyclable materials banned from disposal). Additionally, monthly reports submitted to MassDEP by the South Hadley Landfill indicate that McNamara delivered 20 truckloads of material that contained quantities of waste ban items in excess of acceptable standards during the period from March 1, 2013 through July 2013.

"MassDEP is investing additional resources to ensure that waste and recyclables are handled in a manner that is environmentally responsible, compliant, and does not compromise the recycling efforts of citizens and businesses," said Michael Gorski, director of MassDEP's Western Regional Office in Springfield.

MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.

Police, fire logs to appear Dec. 5

Due to the early Thanksgiving holiday deadline, the Agawam Police Department and Agawam Fire Department logs for the week of Nov. 19 to Nov. 25 were not available at presstime. We will run both the police and fire logs for that week in their entirety in the Dec. 5 edition.

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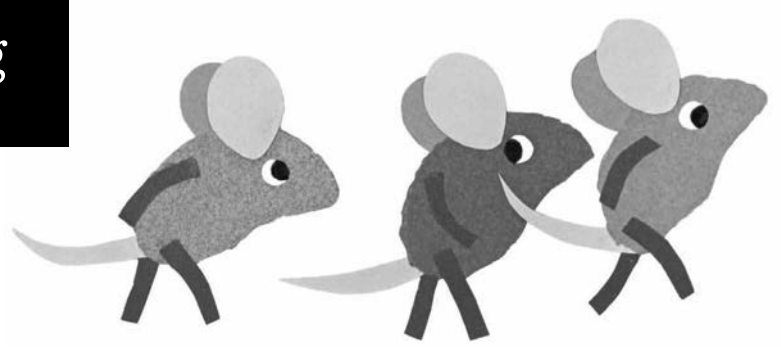

Not Just Kid Stuff:
The Wonder of Children's Book Illustrations

Tues., Dec. 10, 10 a.m.–noon Storrs Library, 693 Longmeadow Street, Longmeadow, MA

Nick Clark of The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art believes children's book illustration is seen as inferior to fine art even though work by the best picture-book artists is steeped in art history. Nick will explore greats such as Eric Carle, Maurice Sendak, and Chris Van Allsburg.

Programs are free and open to the public, but space is limited. For information or to enroll, call 413.567.7800 or e-mail **learning@glenmeadow.org**. Visit **glenmeadow.org/learning**.

Art Credit: FREDERICK, Pantheon © 1967 by Leo Lionni, renewed by Leo Lionni 1995. Used with permission from the Lionni family.

Glenmeadow

Business

Ameriprise Financial volunteers fight hunger

Ameriprise Financial advisors, employees and clients recently joined forces to help ensure Western Massachusetts area families have nutritious meals to share this holiday season. Organized by Alvanos & Associates, located in Feeding Hills, 15 volunteers gathered at the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts to sort food and pack boxes, in an effort to help the one in six Americans, including 16 million children, who struggle with hunger.

The event was part of an annual national day of service organized by Ameriprise in partnership with Feeding America, the nation's leading anti-hunger organization. More than 9,000 Ameriprise financial advisors, employees and clients from across all 50 states spent the day helping more than 375 hunger-relief organizations prepare for increased demand for services around the holiday season.

Feeding Hills Ameriprise advisors Susan Alvanos and Charlie Alvanos organized their National Day of Service volunteer event at the Food Bank for the third year in a row. "It is a small way for us to connect with those in need in our community and participate in such a worthwhile cause, serving people—families and children-- who are hungry, especially during the Thanksgiving season. We thank our staff and our clients for volunteering with us."

Turley Publications courtesy photo

Susan Alvanos, left, and Charles Alvanos, right, are shown with Andrew Morehouse, executive director of the Food Bank of Western Mass.

Ferrero named to STCC advisory committee

Dee L. Emery Ferrero, chief executive officer of DEF Enterprises, has been named to the board of the Business Advisory Committee of the Springfield Technical Community College, School of Business and Information Technologies.

The purpose of the organization is to promote and transform lives through educational opportunities that promote both personal and professional success.

Ferrero is also the CEO and publisher of the Western Mass Women Magazine, The Hartford County Women Magazine, Weddings by Design, Media 9 Marketing Associates and Statement Skincare & Color Cosmetics.

She is the current chairwoman for the Agawam Small Business Assistance Center, first vice president of the Women Business Owners Alliance of Pioneer Valley, and second vice president of the West of the River Chamber of Commerce and is also a board member for the Valley Press Club and The Professional Women's Chamber of Greater Springfield. She is a member of the Professional Association of Bridal Consultants and is an ordained minister.

Ferrero has three adult children and resides in Agawam with her husband, Michael.

Insurance agency announces new hire, promotions

Insurance Center of New England, Inc., one of the largest locally-owned, independent insurance agencies in New England, announced two new hires and the promotion of three employees in its Agawam office.

Lori Burkavage has been hired as claims specialist, handling personal and commercial claims. She is based in the Agawam office.

Michelle Depelteau has been hired as assistant vice president, Employee Benefits. In this role, she guides companies of all sizes through the maze of health insurance and other employee benefit plans from a variety of options offered by multiple carriers that best fit their needs.

Shemeka Browne-Pohlman has been promoted to ACA Compliance Specialist from sales assistant, Employee Benefits Division as part of the Group Benefits Department. In her new role, she works with clients to ensure they remain on target to comply with new ACA regulations.

MaryLynn Murray has been promoted to project manager and sales director. In her new role, she oversees the producers in the benefits and commercial lines departments, ensuring new initiatives roll out on time and helping the producers identify new opportunities.

Kristina LaPlante has been promoted to vice president, Personal Lines. In her new role, she will oversee all sales operations, customer service and Credit Union Affinity relationships.

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Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE
AGAWAM
CITY COUNCIL

The Agawam City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, December 16, 2013 at 7:00 PM** at the Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Agawam Planning Board on a proposed zoning amendment to Section 180 of the Agawam Zoning Ordinance by adding a new district entitled "Mixed Use Business C District." A copy of the proposal can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

BY ORDER OF:
Christopher C. Johnson
City Council President
11/28,12/5/13

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD13P2230EA
Estate of:
Claire Alice Gedney
Also Known As:
Claire A. Gedney
Date of Death: 10/12/13
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **John V. Gedney, Jr.** of Agawam MA

John V. Gedney, Jr. of Agawam MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to Institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
11/28/13

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD13P2196EA
Estate of:
Valerie A Senecal
Also known as:
Valerie Ann Senecal
Date of Death: 09/16/2013
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by: **Michael R Tryon** of Westfield MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

And also requesting that: **Michael R Tryon** of Westfield MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 12/16/2013.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion,** First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 18, 2013
Suzanne T Seguin
Register of Probate
11/28/13

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD11P1342PM
Estate of:
Hermine M Pietruski
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by: **John Sullivan** of Sequim, WA requesting that an order of Complete Settlement of the estate issue including to approve an accounting and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 12/04/2013.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion,** First Justice of this Court.
Date:November 06, 2013
Suzanne T Seguin
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11/28/13

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All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

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Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

In the Classroom

Agawam Schools' weekly lunch menu

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 2: Baked chicken O's with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, peas, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 3: Baked French toast sticks with syrup for dipping, baked potato rounds, sausage links, orange wedges, juice cup.

Wednesday, Dec. 4: Whole-wheat buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, French breadstick, mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, Dec. 5: Half day. No lunch service.

Friday, Dec. 6: Cheese quesadilla pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 2: Baked chicken O's with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, peas, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 3: Cheeseburger on a roll with lettuce and tomato, oven baked potato wedges, vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Wednesday, Dec. 4: Whole-wheat buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, French breadstick, mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, Dec. 5: Half day. No lunch service.

Friday, Dec. 6: Cheese quesadilla pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, Dec. 2: Baked chicken O's with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, peas, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 3: Cheeseburger on a roll with lettuce and tomato, oven baked potato wedges, vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Wednesday, Dec. 4: Whole-wheat buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, French breadstick, mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, Dec. 5: Half day. No lunch service.

Friday, Dec. 6: Cheese quesadilla pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AHS students learn to 'take the lead'

Turley Publications courtesy photo

Agawam High School students in attendance at a recent Kiwanis Club Key Leader Forum were, from left, Jenna Gamelli, Katie Hryniewicz, Kayla Moquin, Allie Rubeck and Rachel Beusse-Kauffman. At far right are Adam Right, coordinator, and Elizabeth Melchiori, Agawam/West Springfield Kiwanis advisor to the Key Club. AHS students not pictured: Sara Kiley, Molly Mitther and Raff Manzi.

The Kiwanis Club of Westfield hosted a Key Leader Forum for high school students from the region Nov. 9 at Westfield State University. The program was a one-day leadership program for students from area high schools engaged in developing leadership skills that will benefit them throughout their lifetime.

"The focus of this program was to encourage students to 'take the lead' in helping their school and community to have a healthier, kinder and more civil environment," said Adam Wright, event coordinator and Kiwanis of New England and Bermuda Global Growth chairperson.

"It was a great opportunity for students to come together and really open up about some of the issues they face in their schools. Having the support of the university and especially the college students from the Kiwanis Circle K Club that worked with these extraordinary young adults from the high schools was invaluable to making it an effective and fun day," he said.

There was no cost for the event.

City Council meeting agenda

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main St.
Monday, Dec. 2
7 p.m.

1. Roll Call
2. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Citizen's Speak Time
4. Minutes
   1. Regular Council Meeting – Nov. 18, 2013
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Resolutions, Memorials and Remonstrances
   1. TR-2013-49- A Resolution confirming the appointment of Shelby Hall-Gibbons, 49 Anvil St., Feeding Hills, MA to the Agawam Housing Authority to a term expiring the second Monday in January 2015 (Mayor)
7. Report of Council Committees
8. Elections
9. Public Hearings
   1. PH-2013-15 (ZC-2013-6)- A petition for zone change for property located at Sheri Lane Parcel H13 8 18, by applicants John Conte and Louis Conte, 661 Barry St., Feeding Hills (Referred to Legislative Committee)
   2. PH-2013-16 (TOR-2013-8) – An ordinance to amend the Code of the Town of Agawam Zoning Ordinances §180; Mixed Use Business District (Public hearing set for Dec. 16, 2013).
10. Old Business
    1. TO-2013-24- Order granting or renewing a Class 2 Dealer's License for Agawam Auto Mall, Inc., 825 Springfield St., Agawam, MA (Clerk) (Tabled 11/18/13) (Referred to Administrative Committee)
    2. TO-2013-47- Order granting or renewing a Class 2 Dealer's License for ACE Auto Body, 1363 Main St., Agawam, MA (Referred to Administrative Committee) (Clerk)
    3. TO-2013-48 - Order granting or renewing a license for an Automatic Amusement Device for FSF Inc., d/b/a Riverboat Bar & Grill, 11 South End Bridge Circle, Agawam, MA (Referred to Administrative Committee) (Clerk)
    4. TO-2013-49- Order granting or renewing a license for an Automatic Amusement Device for Scoreboard Bar & Restaurant, 15 King St., Agawam, MA (Referred to Administrative Committee (Clerk)
11. New business: Unavailable at press time.
12. Any other matter that may legally come before the city council.

Adjournment.

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Keeping kids safe

AJHS nominated for security grant

By Chelsea Nelson
Turley Publications Intern

AGAWAM — Patty Burns, a school counselor at Agawam Junior High School, recently nominated the school for the "Together for a Safer School" grant from Stanley Security. Winning the grant would be a huge opportunity for Agawam to improve security features at the school, she said, especially after the Sandy Hook, Conn., Nevada and Dorchester shootings that have occurred.

Online grants are being awarded to schools for numerous reasons, with safety being the first one. Burns said she found the grant at Eschool.com and figured she would nominate her school.

"Why not, it's an excellent opportunity to enhance safety in our schools and increase community awareness," she said.

Stanley Security provides safe learning environments for schools around the country. This grant is their way of giving back to the community and protecting children. The first place prize is $200,000 in installed Stanley Security products or services. There will be three runners-up that will win individual prizes of $100,000 in Stanley security installed products.

The funds are awarded to the schools that receive the most votes at stanlysaferschools.com now through Dec. 13.

If awarded the grant, the school plans to collaborate with Stanley Security to decide areas of critical need.

"It is important that our school improves our security so we can focus on what's really important – education," Burns said.

With the help of the staff information on the website, the principals reach out to parents through the phone system, the PTO utilizing social media sites like Facebook and/or Twitter, and Mayor Richard A. Cohen's alert to Channel 12 in hopes that they encourage as many people as possible to vote for AJHS to win.

School administrators, staff and teachers, as well as students, parents and residents of Agawam are asked to vote to increase the school's chances of winning. Each vote counts as an entry to win a daily prize. Winners will be notified next month and prizes will be awarded in 2014.

The support of the town is critical, said Burns.

"We can't stress enough how much we would appreciate the support and votes of our community members," she said.

For more information or to vote for Agawam Junior High School, visit stanleysaferschools.com. Simply enter an email address to begin voted and check back daily to help AJHS win prizes.

AHS Counseling Bulletin

Open Houses/Informational Session: Many colleges are hosting events in the next few weeks. A complete list is posted in the classrooms as well as the Counseling Center. Check the college website for more information and to confirm the date and time of the event.

Already applied to college: If your college applications were submitted prior to Friday, Nov. 15, they did not include term 1 grades. Please provide your counselor with a regular sized envelope ASAP, that includes a stamp in the right hand corner, your name in the left hand corner and addressed to each college. Your counselor will then mail out your term 1 grades.

College Applications: Due to your counselor Friday, Dec. 6.

Marist College: Offering four-year tuition, room and board technology scholarships for fall 2014. Visit www.marist.edu/admission/technologyscholarships for more information.

SUNY Oswego: Merit scholarships available. Visit oswego.edu/admissions/scholarships for more information.

Scholarships: See your counselor or visit the websites below for more information or an application.

Mark Bavis Leadership Foundation: Available to any high school student in Mass. Awarded on the basis of need, and is not academically based. Apply online at www.markbavisleadershipfoundation.org. Amount: $1,000-$5,000. Due: Jan. 15.

Walter S. Barr Scholarship: Amount: up to $10,000. Apply online at www.horacesmithfund.org. Due: Dec. 20.

William R. Rooney Scholarship: Apply online at www.horacesmithfund.org. Due: Dec. 20. Students must title the top of the application William R. Rooney scholarship rather than Walter S. Barr to be considered for the William R. Rooney scholarship.

Barbara Lotze Scholarship for Future Teachers: Apply online at www.aapt.org/programs/grants/lotze.cfm. Due: Dec. 1.

Elks Most Valuable Student Award: Award: $1,000-$12,500 per year. Apply online at http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs.cfm. Due: Dec. 6, 2013.

Francis Oimet Scholarship Fund: Award: up to $1,000. Apply online at www.ouimet.org/scholarships/application-process/. Due: Dec. 1.

Hispanic Scholarship Fund/ General College Scholarships: Apply online at www.hsf.net/. Due: Dates vary. Some as early as Dec. 1.

MA AFL-CIO Scholarship: Apply online at www.massaflcio.org/scholarship-program and return by Dec. 11.

NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award: Apply online at www.nfib.com/yef/yef-programs/young-entrepreneur-awards. Due: Dec. 18.

Studentscholarships.org: To access the Free Scholarship Database, simply create your own profile.

AXA Achievement Scholarship: Award: $2,000-$25,000. Apply at www.axa-achievement.com. Due: Dec. 15.

National Federation of Independent Business Young Entrepreneur Award: Amount: $1,000-10,000. Apply at http://www.nfib.com/yea by Dec. 17.

John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Essay Contest: Open to high school students in grades 9-12. Award: $500-$5,000. Apply at www.jfklibrary.org. Due: Jan. 6.

Ron Brown Scholarship: Visit http://www.ronbrown.org for more information. Award: $10,000 annually. Deadline: Jan. 9, 2014.

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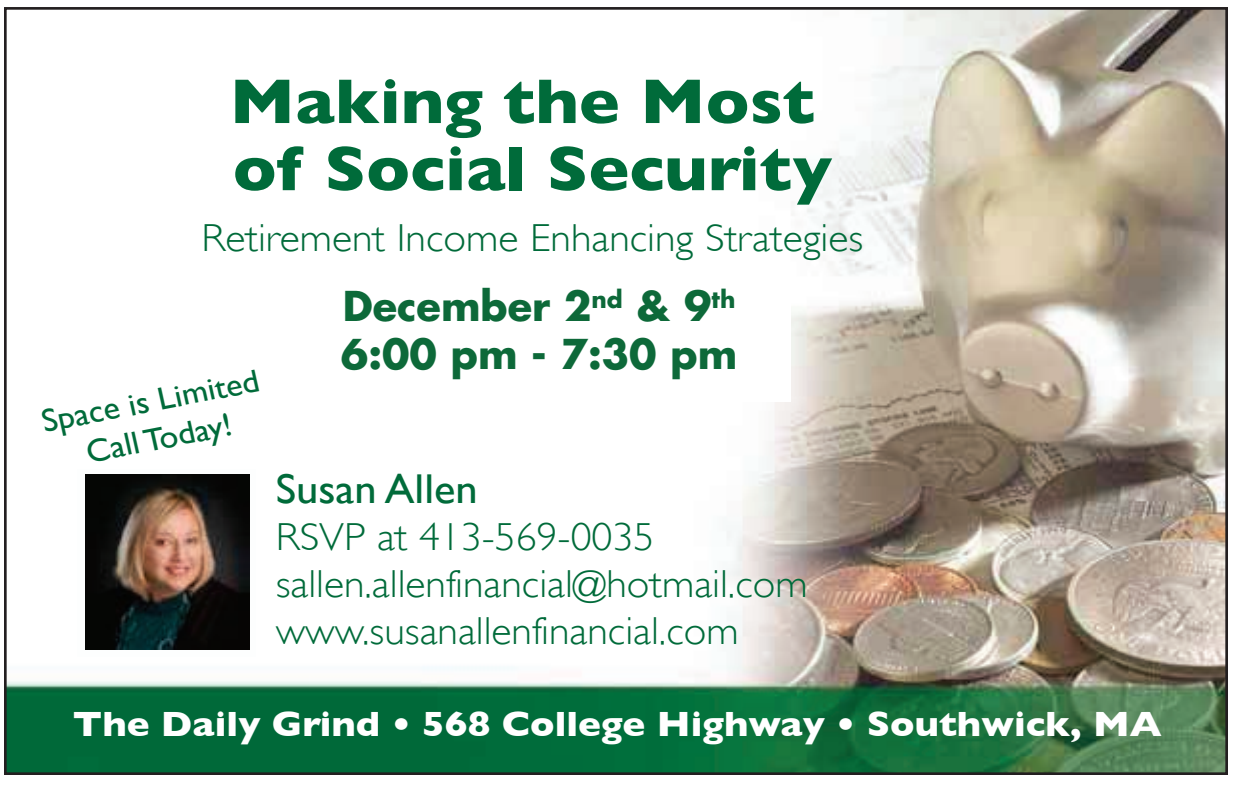


MOORE COMPLETES TRAINING

Turley Publications courtesy photo

PFC Brandon N. Moore was among a group to complete an Improvised Explosive Device Detector Dog Handler Course.

PFC Brandon N. Moore, an infantry rifleman, completed a five-week Improved Explosive Device Detector Dog Handling Course Nov. 1 at the K2 Training Center, Southern Pines, N.C.

Moore is stationed with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C. The dog assigned to Moore is a female black Labrador retriever named Quila (Key-La). Since 2009, infantry battalions deploying to war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan have brought IED dogs with them.

Moore is the son of Donna and Brian Moore of Agawam, and the brother of Diana and Kimberly.

A GATHERING OF MINDS

Turley Publications courtesy photo

Prof. Joel Dearing's Springfield College Graduate Class - PHED 627 presented "Agawam High School Athletic Field Proposals" Nov. 20. Mayor Richard A. Cohen, Dave Stratton, athletic director; and Lou Conte, former athletic director and chair of the new track committee, were invited to participate and to be panelists.

Event proceeds benefit Leonard House

Turley Publications courtesy photo

John McCarthy, owner of McCarthy Liquors, presents Phil Kimball, Captain Charles Leonard House trustee, with a check for the proceeds from the third annual benefit Craft Beer and Wine Tasting held at the Captain Leonard House on Oct. 18.

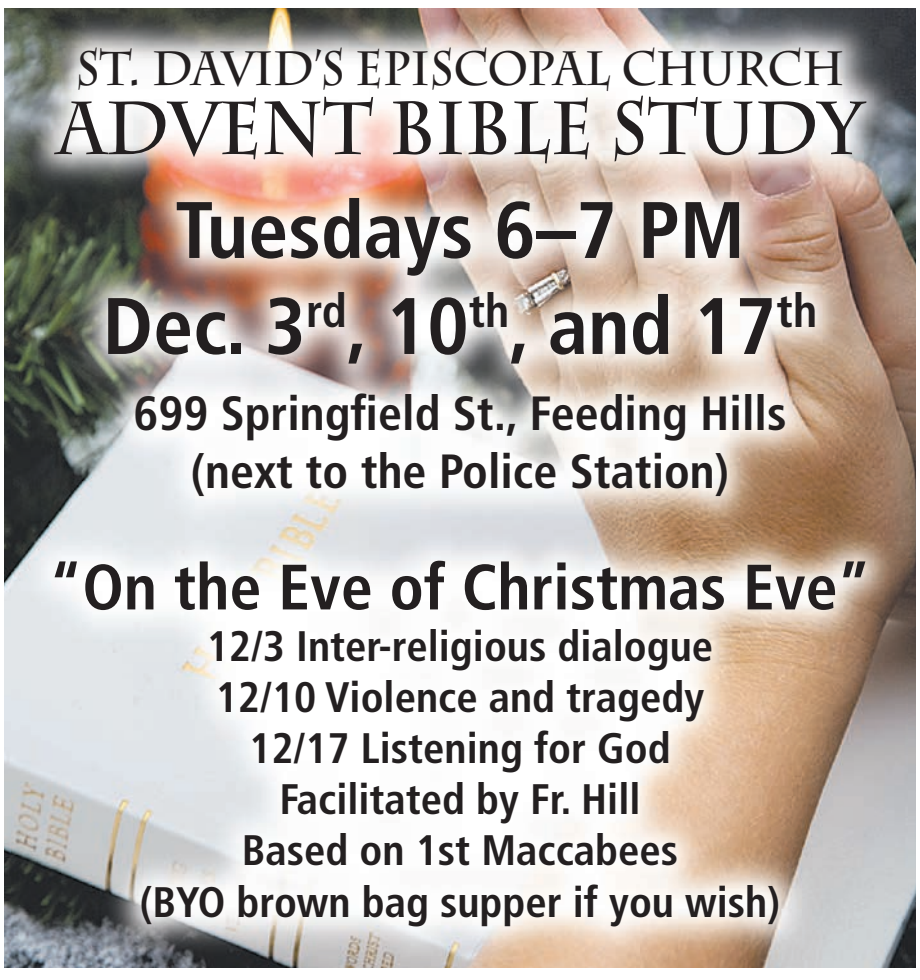
AGAWAM – The proceeds from the third annual benefit Craft Beer and Wine Tasting, which was held at the Captain Charles Leonard House Oct. 18, were donated to the Captain Charles Leonard House.

John McCarthy, owner of McCarthy Liquors, presented Leonard House trustee Phil Kimball with a check recently.

McCarthy and Manon, his wife and business co-owner, along with the staff of McCarthy Liquors, sponsor the event each year.

"We are glad to do it. Supporting local businesses and organizations is good for the whole community. The Captain Leonard House is an important piece of town history and warrants our support," said McCarthy.

The McCarthys' generosity contributes valuable financial assistance toward the operational and maintenance costs of the ongoing preservation of one of the historical building.



Community Newspaper
ADVERTISING

SPORTS

Brownies, West Springfield help out Light

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – It's true that the Agawam versus West Springfield football rivalry dates back many years. And more recently, the captains and the cheerleading captains get together in a joint meeting the towns' Rotary Clubs.

But last week, members from both sides gathered for a bigger cause.

Members of the Agawam football team gathered with the West Springfield cheerleaders to participate in the Lisa's Light of Hope walk at Stanley Park on Nov. 9.

The Lisa's Light of Hope Foundation was started in honor of Lisa Calabrese, a former West Springfield cheerleader who passed away shortly after graduating from high school.

Please see Light, page 14

Turley Publications submitted photo

The Agawam football team joined with the West Springfield cheerleaders to help support Lisa's Light of Hope.

Youth program bodes well for future

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Sportts Correspondent

AGAWAM – From the oldest to youngest player, Agawam football has been very successful this season. While the high school varsity made headlines with a perfect regular season and a sectional championship appearance.

But down on the "farm" the up-and-coming varsity players of the future had a winning season of their own.

The Pee Wee Agawam Warriors, a team of third and fourth-graders, won the 2013 Suburban Amateur Football League Super Bowl in the White Division, defeating Wilbraham on Nov. 2 at East Longmeadow 8-0. Earlier in the season, Wilbraham handed Agawam their only loss of the year 32-30.

Coach Peter Vecchiarelli, uncle of Agawam High School quarterback Mike Vecchiarelli, said it simply came down to learning from mistakes, and excellent execution this season.

Third and fourth graders are being introduced to tackle football for the first time. The Pee Wee league is dedicated to helping teach the kids the fundamentals.

"We teach them alignments, stances, tackling and blocking," said Vecchiarelli. "We want to just get better with every practice and every game. These boys played like men, beyond their years. They executed plays really well."

The team was helped with a solid running back, Griffin Levesque. The 10-year old scored many touchdowns this season, the coach said, and had the lone score in the Super Bowl game.

During the third quarter, Agawam was set up around midfield, and Levesque found a hole and ran approximately 50 yards for the touchdown. Earlier in the game, Agawam scored a safety to lead 2-0. The score stayed the same through halftime.

The Warriors defense was lights out.

"They (Wilbraham) scored 32 points against us the first time," said Vecchiarelli. "And in the Su-

Please see YOUTH, page 13

Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

The Agawam Warriors Pee Wee football team won the 2013 Suburban Amateur Football League Super Bowl earlier this month.

New playoff system not working so well

By Dave Forbes
Turley Publications
Sports Staff Writer

Turley Publications photo by David Henry
sweetdogphotos.com

Minnechaug's Carl Litner (74) wraps up a Chicopee runner.

REGION – After one season of the new statewide football system, it has received decidedly mixed reviews from both coaches and athletic directors from across the Western Massachusetts region.

While some believe that the system has worked very well, others believe that the two-year experiment will need some changes to be made to it in order for the playoff format to become permanent.

"There are some things that worked really well for the new system, and some other things that probably need to be fixed," Ware football coach and athletics director Scott Slattery said. "If those issues can be resolved, then I would consider voting in favor of it."

The way the new playoff system worked is through the first eight weeks of the season, both league and non-league opponents were set up by the individual athletics director of each school. After eight weeks, the top four teams in each division were placed into a playoff where the top-seeded squad faced the fourth-seeded team, while the second and third-seeded teams faced each other in the semifinals. The two winning schools then advanced to the Sectional finals, with the winners of each game moving on to the state semifinals and then onward to the state finals at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough.

For non-playoff teams, a scheduling committee made up of athletic directors decided what teams would face each other in the two non-playoff games.

Ludlow athletics director Tim Brillo said that one of the downsides to the new system is that some of the teams have faced featured long travel, which made it difficult to draw attendance during the non-playoff games.

"I can only speak about the non playoff side as unfortunately we came up a little short this year. As a non-playoff team the system ran smoothly," Brillo said. "The scheduling committee did a good job matching schools up so that the week 9 and 10 games were competitive.

"However our match-ups were with teams where there was significant travel time involved. There was a significant decrease in attendance at our home game against Drury. A couple of reason may have been Drury travel distance and the fact that night was also the first round of the playoffs."

Slattery said one thing that he would like to see change for next season when taking part in the

Please see SYSTEM, page 13

Stratton, Reidy named to Volleyball All-Star team

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam girls volleyball program has been growing during the past few seasons, and the team's success has reflected that with playoff appearances during the past three seasons.

Agawam reached the quarterfinals this season and the semifinals last year.

This season, two of Agawam's top players, Danielle Stratton and Mary Kate Reidy will be heading to the 2nd Annual Volleyball Hall of Fame All-Star game.

Stratton is a three-year member of the varsity and also a three-sport athlete at Agawam High School.

Stratton is a member of the volleyball, basketball, and softball teams. She has been part of two Western Massachusetts Division I softball championships as a shortstop and leadoff hitter.

With the volleyball team, Stratton is a middle hitter. She has also found a lot of success serving the ball and has had the ability to go on impressive serving streaks during the past three years. She said her interest in volleyball started in middle school.

"My friend's brother started playing and we ended up going to the coach's camp," said Stratton said last week.

Coach Pat Demers, who has several accolades in the sport, began holding camps for junior high students to help increase interest in volleyball in Agawam. Stratton was a player who learned the sport and decided to play it over soccer when she reached high school.

"It ended up being a really great decision because you get really close to the people you're playing with and there is just such a great bond there," said Stratton.

The girls all-star game was introduced last year, and Stratton represented the Brownies in the game. She is looking forward to her second straight appearance.

"It was a lot of fun last year," said Stratton. "I am really looking forward to going back."

Reidy is also a senior. She will be heading to the all-star game for the first time.

The outside hitter for the Brownies was very excited when she found out she was named to the team. She is looking forward to playing "one more game."

"This is a sport I love," said Reidy. "I love getting to come out and play with my friends and have fun. I can't wait to play in the all-star game."

Reidy picked up volleyball her sophomore year and made the varsity. Her brother, Jon Reidy, played for Agawam on the boys team. She previously played soccer before switching fall sports.

Both were scheduled to be part of the game held at Chicopee Comp on Monday night.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

Turley Publications photo by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com

Agawam senior Danielle Stratton, shown here playing in the basketball Whips Tournament, was selected to play in the second Annual Spalding Western Massachusetts Girls High School Volleyball All-Star Game.

Lopez competes at States

By Dave Forbes
Turley Publications Sports Staff Writer

GARDNER - Agawam senior Gina Lopez had one more race to run to complete the cross country season.

The senior competed in the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association Division 1 State Meet at Gardner Municipal Golf Course earlier this month.

Lopez was the lone representative from the Agawam girls cross country program. She finished the race in a time of 20 minutes, 06.55 seconds, which was good enough for 148th place overall.

Lopez reached the finals after completing the Western Massachusetts Championships with a time of 22:05, which she finished in 22nd place.

Sophomore Kaley Richards, of Needham, won the race in a time of 16:53.79.

Needham also won the team event with 83 points.

YOUTH, from page 12

per Bowl, nothing. We picked up on their running patterns, and went over film, and then drilled it into the kids during practices.

Vecchiarelli stressed how important it was for the kids to learn from their mistakes against Wilbraham, and how well it paid off during the Super Bowl as they pitched the shutout on defense.

Agawam's defense also scored points, picking up a safety on the opening drive of the game.

"After a couple of penalties and a block in the back, they (Wilbraham) were pretty deep in their own territory," said Vecchiarelli. "They tried some kind of reverse play and we were able to tackle them in the backfield."

Agawam finished 7-1 in the regular season and defeated Quabbin in the semifinals of the playoffs. They had two wins over Quabbin, and two in the regular season over West Springfield.

Agawam had a deep team with 41 players on the Pee Wee roster.

"They got better with every practice," said Vecchiarealli. "They really came together as a team and a family to win the championship."

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

The Agawam Warriors Pee Wee squad hoists the trophy in the air.

SYSTEM, from page 12

non-playoff games is for teams to face each other from their league or region.

"It would be great to have a chance to face a team like Palmer or Pathfinder again for the second time," Slattery said. "The attendance for a game like that one would be much better than what we did have for our two games this season."

Minnechaug athletics director Mike Roy also did not think that the new system worked this year."

"To be honest, I'm not impressed so far," Roy said. "Once a team was out of it after the eighth week, it changes the motivation levels. In previous years, the games in the last couple of weeks, as well as Thanksgiving had some implication for one or both of the teams. In our case with no Thanksgiving this year, it's got to be even worse. Chicopee at least has the game with Holyoke and it being so old, it has some meaning. Then there's the crowds or lack thereof. I was pretty shocked when I got there for the Chicopee game. Normally I have to fight my way to the press box. Not that game."

Dave Forbes is the sports editor for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com or by calling 413-967-3505 ext. 106.

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LADY BROWNIES WIN PVSOA AWARD

LUDLOW - The Agawam girls varsity soccer team was recently named the winner of the Pioneer Valley Soccer Officials Association Bob McIntyre Sportsmanship Award.

We will have more on the award in next week's paper.

Here are some pictures from the fall season:

Agawam's Becca Usshmann (1) reaches out to grab the ball.

Agawam's Iman Shehemi (12) steps into a kick.

Turley Publications photos by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com

Agawam's Allie Wysocki (21) heads the ball away.

Light, from page 12

Lisa's Light of Hope is a foundation that is dedicated to raising awareness and support treatment for eating disorders.

West Springfield cheerleading coach Nicole Palange said a member of the Agawam football team was related to Calabrese. As a result, approximately 30 members of the football team, coming off a playoff game the night before, came out to Stanley Park to participate in the walk.

"It's really a great situation when you see these kids come together for a cause like this," said Palange. "We have a great rivalry with Agawam for many years. But these kids gather together every year and they are nice to one another. It's a very healthy rivalry. The guys were really great with our cheerleaders at the walk."

She also noted that while the "rivalry" exists, a cause like Lisa's Light of Hope shows that there are bigger things happening in the world and the teams recognize it.

"They are not worried about their teams when it comes to this cause," said Palange. "They have learned through athletics that there is something bigger than them happening, and it is really nice to see."

West Springfield cheerleading has participated in the foundation for the past several years. Palange said they were pleased to receive support from their neighboring community.

"These two teams demonstrated that they can be rivals, but also can be friends at the same time," said Palange. "Hats off to these student-athletes for demonstrating true sportsmanship."

In addition to the players, some members of the coaching staff also took part in the event.

The teams will be on opposite sides of the field on Thanksgiving morning for the annual football game between the two schools, but Palange says the big victory has come off the field.

Lisa's Light of Hope can be found by searching on Facebook. The foundation is actively collecting donations for eating disorder awareness and recently held their annual fundraiser.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com.

BROWNIES OPEN SEASON AT WHIPS

WEST SPRINGFIELD - The Agawam girls basketball team took part in the Whips Basketball Tournament at the West Springfield Boys & Girls Club over the past week.

Agawam's Marge Frawley (13) looks to make a pass to a teammate.

Turley Publications photo by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com

Agawam's Christie Mirski (14) makes a hard push up the floor.

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Obituaries & Church News

DEATH NOTICES & SERVICES

Cornelius, Ellen M.
Died Nov. 16, 2013
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Colonial Forastiere
Funeral Home

Toon, Barbara A.
Died Nov. 18, 2013
Funeral Nov. 21, 2013
Agawam Curran-Jones
Funeral Home

Woods, Mary P.
Died Nov. 18, 2013
Funeral Nov. 22, 2013
Agawam Funeral Home

CHURCH DIRECTORY

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
745 Main St., Agawam
786-7111
Agawam1@verizon.net
www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com
Pastor Earl E. Eisenbach

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m.
Communion on the first Sunday of the month. Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service. Pastor Earl and his wife Barbara are always available for prayer after the service. "A place to call home ~ A people to call family"

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
459 Mill St., Feeding Hills
413-786-4174
Pastor: Ken Blanchard
email agawamumc@gmail.com
agawamworship.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Communion on the first and third Sunday of the month. Coffee and fellowship hour immediately after worship. Handicap accessible at front entrance.
Worship At Country Estates Nursing Home: 2nd and 5th Thursdays each month at 11 a.m.
AUMC cooks and serves dinner for the Samaritan Inn homeless shelter on the second Saturday of the month.

BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD
580 Main St., Agawam
(413) 789-2930
www.bethany-ag.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Celebration of Praise: Sunday 6 p.m.
Wednesday Mid-Week Service (Family Night): 7 p.m.
Sunday Evening Contemporary Service: 6 p.m.

CHURCH OF REDEMPTION
50 Maple St., Agawam
(413) 304-2313
churchofredemptionministries.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Summer Schedule
Sunday Service at 10 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH
370 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam
(413) 786-1681
www.jesussaves.7@comcast.com
Website: www.faithbible -church.org
Pastor: Rick Donofrio

SERVICES
Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer
Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC
"An Open and Affirming Congregation."
21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills
P.O. Box 264
(413) 786-5061
fhcuccoffice@verizon.net
Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
Church School 9 a.m.
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Infant and child care provided.
Handicap accessible.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
760 Main St., Agawam
Agawambc@localnet.com
www.firstbaptistagawam.org

SUNDAY SERVICES
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (grades K - 5)
following Children's Message until 10:45
Youth Study time (grades 6+)
following sermon until 10:45
Coffee & Conversation following worship every Sunday

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
152 South Westfield St.
Feeding Hills
789-2026

SUNDAY SERVICES
Men's & Women's Bible Study Groups and Children's Sunday School Worship Service at 10 a.m. Children's Church for age 3 to high school takes place after the service. Nursery available for younger children. A time for fellowship after the service.

MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH
522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
Feeding Hills, MA
478-9484
David L. Short, Pastor

Sunday Familly Bible Study Hour, 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH
1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
(413) 786-8200
www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org
Fr. Steven Amo

WEEKLY SERVICES
Lord's Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.
Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.
Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to the
Sacred Heart following the Friday 9 a.m. Mass

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills.
786-6133
saintdavids@comcast.net.
www.stdavidsagawam.org.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
Sunday, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
823 Main St., Agawam
786-8105
info@stjohnevangelistchurch.org.
www.stjohagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES
Saturdays: 4 p.m. & 6 p.m. (Labor Day to Memorial Day)
Saturdays: 5 p.m. (Memorial Day to Labor Day)
Sundays: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Reconciliation: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
Weekdays - Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri., 8 a.m.
Thursday - Communion Service

News, upcoming events at Agawam Congregational

The public is invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., "a place to call home - a people to call family." Worship service is Sundays at 10 a.m. with a children's message, church school and fellowship with coffee hour following.

Dec. 1 - Family Communion, the First Sunday in Advent with the Candle of Hope: Coffee and fellowship hour following the service. The "Dan Kane & Friends" Christmas concert will take place at 3 p.m. Tickets are $10 for adults and free for children under 10 with a canned good for the parish cupboard.

Playgroup meets every Thursday from at 9:30 to 11 a.m. and follows the Agawam Public School calendar for holidays and vacations.

Dec. 8 - Second Sunday in Advent, the Candle of Peace: Worship service, church school and coffee hour. Music Committee will meet after church. The Mitten Tree is up and in need of hats, gloves, mittens and scarves.

Dec. 15 - Third Sunday in Advent, the Candle of Joy: Church school and coffee hours. The Alice Moore Golden Bell Choir will ring before services and the choir will present "Behold the Star," a Christmas journey to the light of Christ.

Loaves and Fishes will meet Monday, Dec. 16 abd Women's Ministry will meet at 7 p.m. with a special dedication to Barbara Eisenbach.

Men's Ministry will meet Saturday, Dec. 21 at 7:30 a.m. at Bobby J'z in Agawam.

Dec. 22 - Fourth Sunday in Advent, the Candle of Love: Praise team will sing during the prelude. No church school or coffee hour. The children will present their Christmas pageant, the Poinsettia Tree will be on display and the All Church Christmas Party will take place after church.

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services at 5 p.m., Candlelight Family Service and 11 p.m. traditional Candlelight Service.

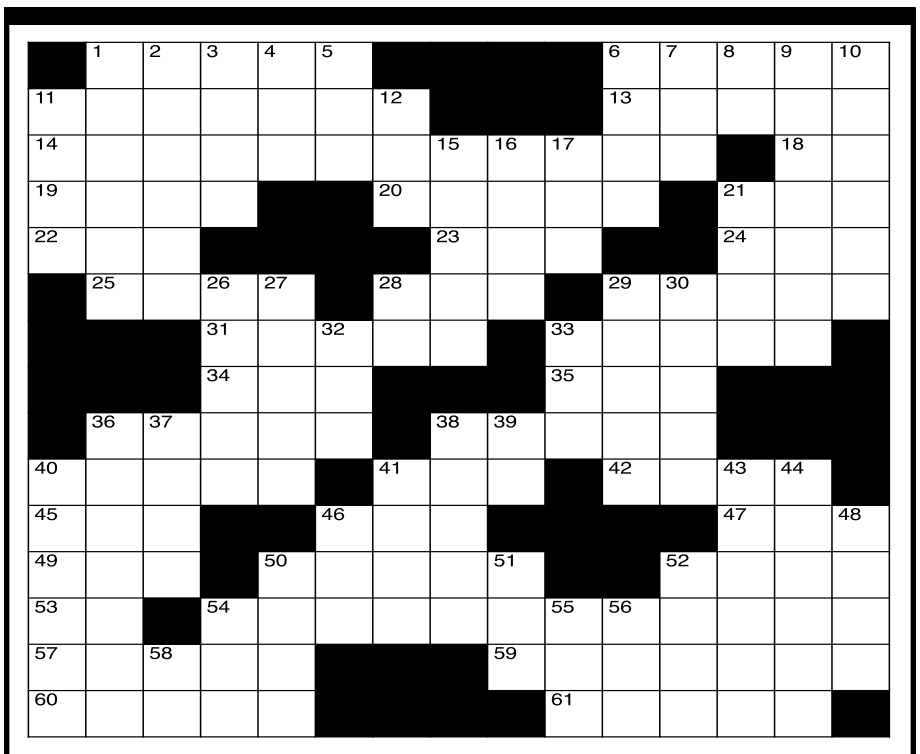
Newsletter collation takes place Friday, Dec. 27 at 9 a.m.

Dec. 29 - Celebration of Christmas Stories worship service, 10 a.m. No church school. Join for coffee hour.

Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 786-7111. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until noon.

Women's event to benefit area shelter

The Women's Ministry at Hope Community Church, 152 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills, invites area women to a candlelight service of Christmas carols, drama and readings Wednesday, Dec. 4 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. All women age 14 and older are invited. A collection of new items for the kitchen will be taken to benefit the Prospect House shelter in Springfield.



CLUES ACROSS
1. Regions
6. Abu __, UAE capital
11. Forever
13. Lower position
14. Masterpiece series
18. Atomic #18
19. Cuckoos
20. Goat with conical horns
21. European money
22. Flaw the surface
23. Restaurant bill
24. Indicated horsepower (abbr.)
25. Go in advance
28. Ancient Egyptian King
29. Insert mark
31. Palm fruits
33. Peels a fruit's skin
34. Many not ands
35. Cathode-ray oscilloscope
36. Bo __, "10"
38. Satisfies to excess
40. More dry
41. Of he
42. Lay a tax upon
45. Ed Murrow's home
46. Newsman Rather
47. Swiss mountain
49. Till
50. Potato, tossed or green
52. Italian automaker
53. Birthplace of Abraham
54. Scheduled visits
57. Yemen capital (alt. sp.)
59. Assisted
60. Persian kings
61. Accumulate

CLUES DOWN
1. Unkeyed
2. Recable
3. Sea eagles
4. Small social insect
5. __ Paulo, city
6. 2 man fight
7. Honey (abbr.)
8. Anno Domini
9. Malibu and Waikiki
10. To burst in
11. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
12. Liquefied natural gas
15. Douroucoulis
16. Spoiled child
17. Founder of Babism
21. Ireland
26. Love intensely
27. One who confronts boldly
28. Atomic #52
29. Feels concern or interest
30. Got up from
32. Sound of disappointment
33. Out of 100 (abbr.)
36. Actress Kerr
37. Irish Gaelic
38. 10 Commandments mountain
39. Morning
40. Straight downhill ski run
41. Angel's crown
43. Canonized individuals
44. Old school tablets
46. Dip lightly into water
48. Traumatic anxiety disorder
50. Mineral spring resorts
51. Desoxyribonucleic acid
52. Greek cheese
54. Express pleasure
55. Don't know when yet
56. 13th Hebrew letter
58. Chinese tennis star Li

Answers on page 13

Buzzin' from Town to Town

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HOLYOKE-Cute brick 3 BR Cape in good location, Near Holyoke Hospital, commuter routes in all directions. Opportunity to own vs rent. Bring your ideas & have a look! (71604534) $110,000

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PALMER-This house shines! Don't miss move-in ready 3BR starter Ranch in great location. Hardwood floors under new carpet in living room & bedrooms, double lot, porch. (71390609) $199,000

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NEW – NORTH BROOKFIELD: Post and Beam four bedroom colonial with lots of character and charm. Three fireplaces, large eat in kitchen with separate dining room $185,000

BARRE: Near the Common, three bedroom, cape has great access to hiking trails, some updates done, lots of built ins for storage and private rear yard. $179,000

MONSON: Private homestead with barn and pasture area. Three bedroom cape set on 3.8 acres. Minutes to Westview Creamery Ice Cream. $224,900

WARREN – Heritage Park, two bedroom mobil with handicap accessible master suite. Three season room, private deck area, pantry closet. $36,900

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LUDLOW 4 ROOM TOWNHOUSE apt. w/2 bdrms, 1.5 baths, central A/C, gas heat, stove & refrig. $875 monthly rent plus utilities. No pets or waterbeds. First, last and security deposit required. **(413)583-3097** or **(413)583-6424.**

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For Rent

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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WARREN 2 BEDROOM DUPLEX, stove, refrigerator, w/d hook-ups, off-street parking. Large yard. $750 Available Jan. 1st. **(413)610-0338.**

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PALMER- 2000 SQ FT- High Visibility Area- 2 Bays- Showroom/ Office/ Storage- Remodeled- $2500/ month- Breton Realty- **413-283-6940**

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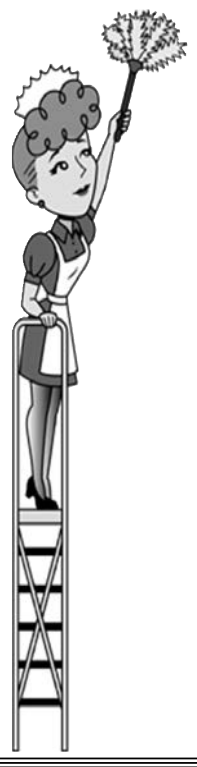

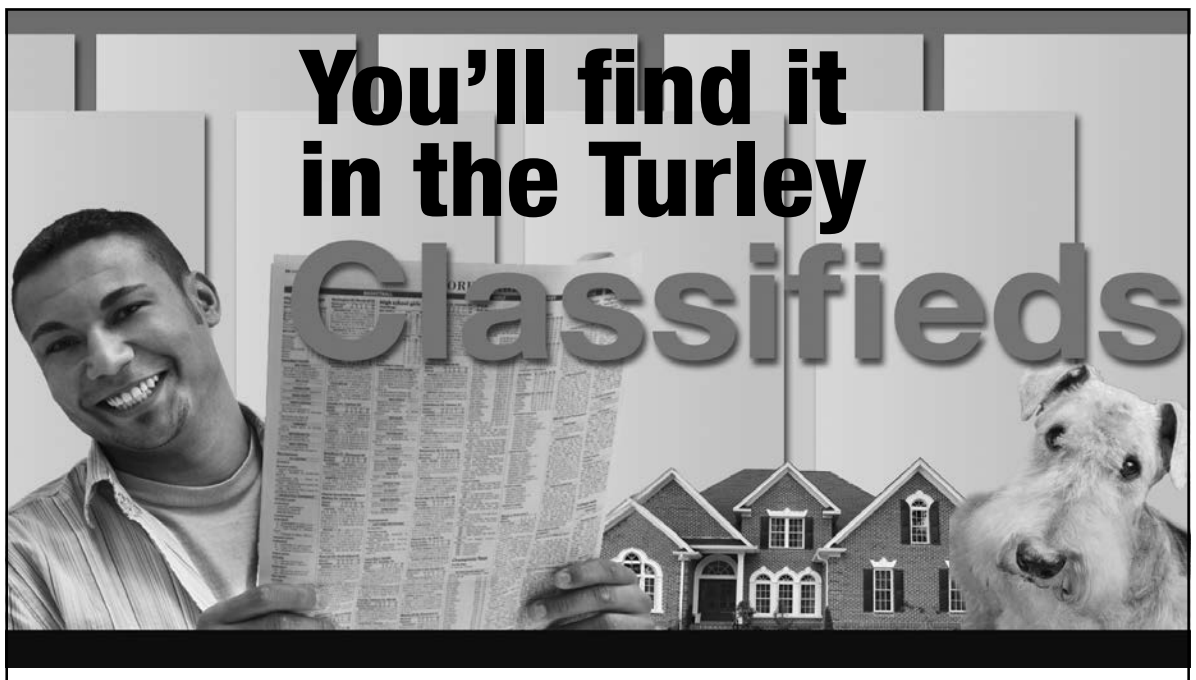

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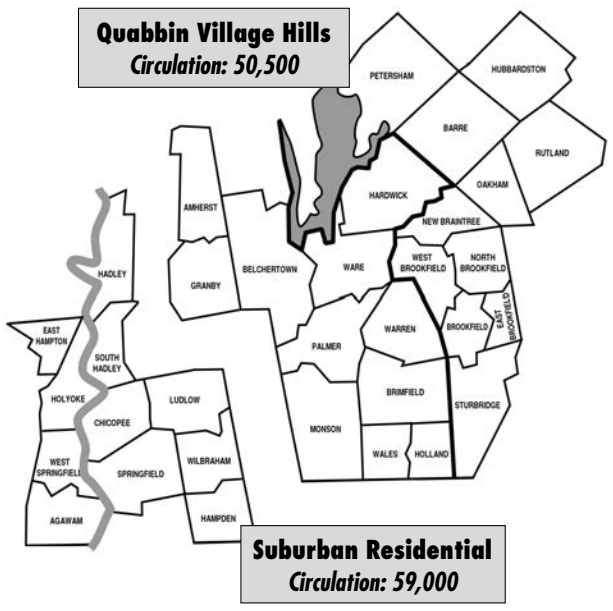

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote "free" events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, Nov. 29

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with rides just $2 per person For more information, call (413) 538-9838 or visit www.holyokemerrygoround.org.

Saturday, Nov. 30

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND is open Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. Rides are just $2 per person/per ride with several specials available. For more information, call (413) 538-9838 or visit www.holyokemerrygoround,org.

Sunday Dec. 1

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA hosted by the Knights of Columbus will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the St. John's Parish Center, 833 Main St., Agawam. Cost for tickets is $7 per person and free for children 12 and under. For more information, call Bill at (413) 789-0540.

A CARD, COIN AND MEMORABILIA SHOW will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chicopee Boys and Girls Club, 580 Meadow St. Admission is $1; kids under 10 are free. There will be over 40 tables, a door prize drawing every 30 minutes, and the club is handicap accessible. For more information, call (413) 593-6046.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

THE AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL will host a Washington, DC Club Holiday Fundraiser from 6 to 9 p.m. in the school's cafeteria. The evening's events will include over 20 vendors and crafters, drinks, a bake sale, items for sale and raffle tickets. The public is invited.

THE AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER will host a free movie ("Fred Claus") at 12:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library. No registration is necessary.

THE TUESDAY MORNING MUSIC CONCERT sponsored by Trinity United Methodist Church in Springfield, will feature a holiday program at 10:30 a.m. Free refreshments are provided after the performances. For more information, contact Yolanda Martin at virgo9654@aol.com or Ed Dibble at eddibble155@comcast.net.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL will take place 6-9 p.m. and will feature an evening of artwork and choral groups from AHS art and music students. The public is invited to come celebrate the arts. For more information, call AHS at (413) 821-0530.

FITNESS FIRST HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, will host a blood drive sponsored by Mercy Medical Center from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A driver's license with photo or state identification with photo is required to donate blood. All donors should eat at least two to three hours prior to donating, weigh at least 110 pounds and must be 18 years or older. To make an appointment, call (413) 786-1460.

AUTHORTALK WITH ELLEN MEEROPOL will take place at the Agawam Public Library at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.ellenmeeropol.com. Call 789-1550 ext. 4 or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org. Her book, House Arrest," will be available for purchase and signing at this event.

A 'NOONTIME CONCERT' will be held at South Congregational Church, 45 Maple St., Springfield featuring Kate Chadbourne, Celtic harpist and storyteller. Free will donation. For information, call 413-732-0117 or email lpicard@sococh.org.

Thursday, Dec. 5

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver, meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 786-7111 or email jbrownacc@verizon.net.

UPCOMING AND ONGOING

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL'S APPLAUSE SERIES continues Friday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. with a holiday music program featuring Judy Handler and Mark Levesque at the Agawam Senior Center. This is free and open to the public.

A SCHOLA NOVA PROGRAM OF LESSONS AND CAROLS will be presented Saturday, Dec. 7 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Longmeadow, at 7 p.m. Admission is free; donations accepted.

THE PAWZAAR HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR to benefit local homeless animals will be held Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Chicopee Family Moose Center on Fuller Road in Chicopee. For more information, contact Melinda Thomas at Thomas J. O'Connor Foundation, (413) 533-4817 or mthomas@tjofoundation.org.

THE CHRISTMAS ON THE GREEN ANNUAL HOLIDAY FAIR takes place Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at First Church in Longmeadow. In addition to toys and games for all ages, offerings will include culinary treats, jewelry, personalized ornaments, vintage home goods, the book nook, hand-crafted wreaths, and the Christmas Shoppe. Lunch is available from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with Santa stopping by from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The public is invited.

A SCHOLA NOVA PROGRAM OF LESSONS AND CAROLS will be presented Sunday, Dc. 8 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Westfield, at 7 p.m. Admission is free; donations accepted.

A CHRISTMAS CONCERT featuring Old Post Road Orchestra will be held Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. at Mary, Mother of Hope Church, corner of Page Blvd. and Roosevelt Ave., Springfield. Free admission; donations accepted. All are welcome.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS will host a "mini tour" Sunday, Dec. 8 at 1 p.m., led by Peggy Perry, D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts, highlighting "American Portraiture: From the Sublime to the Impossible." The tour is free with museum admission and secure, free onsite parking is available.

AUTHORTALK WITH ROBERT TOUGIAS will take place at the Agawam Public Library, Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. His book, "The Quest for the Eastern Cougar," will be available for purchase and signing at this event. To register, call 789-1550 ext. 4 or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper Wednesday, Dec. 11 at a cost of $7 for adults, $4 for children. The public is welcome.

A NOONTIME CONCERT will be held Wednesday, Dec. 11at South Congregational Church, 45 Maple St., Springfield. David Pulliam, director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield, and Larry Picard, director of Music at South Congregational Church, Springfield, play seasonal works for organ solo, two organs and organ and piano. For information, call 413-732-0117 or email lpicard@sococh.org.

RICHIE AND KATHY MITNICK AND THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC SINGERS will present the 25th Annual Holiday Concert sponsored by the Rotary Club of Agawam, Thursday, Dec. 12 at Agawam High School. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is $3 per person plus two canned goods to be donated to area residents and communities.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Charles Dickens in Springfield" featuring Fran Gagnon, Springfield historian, Thursday, Dec. 12 at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is $4 ($2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

THE SPRINGFIELD ARMORY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE welcomes the public to the Commanding Officer's House again this Christmas season. The program begins at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 in the Museum Theater and continues in the Commanding Officer's House on the grounds of the National Historic Site. Admission is free. For information, call 413-734-8551 or visit www.nps.gov/spar.

ON STAGE LIVE - SCROOGE REVISITED: A DICKENS OF A SEQUEL, will be presented Sunday, Dec. 15 and Dec. 22 at 6 p.m. at Christian Life Center, 1590 Sumner Ave., Springfield. Admission is free. Nursery care provided up to 2 years of age. For more information, call (413) 782-7171.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at (888) 613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

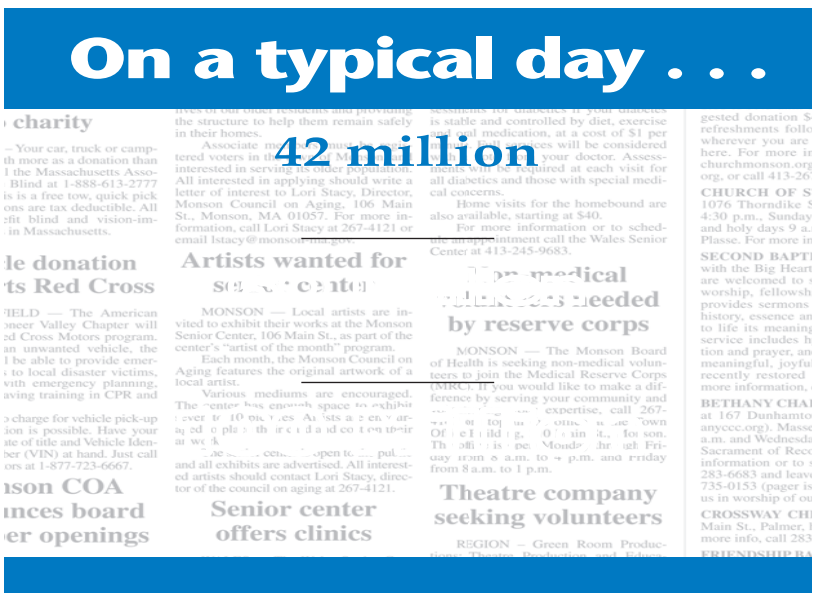
Arts

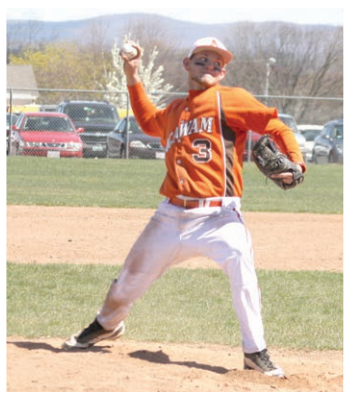
Science museum continues 'Stars Over Springfield'

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Science Museum's large rooftop telescope will be open for public sky gazing Friday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. as part of the Stars Over Springfield observatory series. These programs are organized by the Museum and the Springfield Stars Club, and take place on the first Friday of each month from September through May. Each event features an introductory talk on topics such as space exploration, seasonal sights of the night sky, current astronomical research, or upcoming events like eclipses or comet appearances. This month, astronomy educator and Stars Club member Paul Cardone will present a talk titled "What's New in Our Solar System?"

Stars Over Springfield programs are best suited for families with children ages eight and older, however younger children are also welcome. Admission is $3 for adults and $2 for children 17 and under. These programs are held rain or shine. If it is cloudy, a planetarium show will be presented in place of telescope viewing.

The Springfield Science Museum is located on the Quadrangle at 21 Edwards St. in downtown Springfield. Secure, free, onsite parking is available. For information about astronomy programs at the museum, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 318.





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